

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 11 with the following replacement paragraph:

-- Many reasons exist for dispensing liquid adhesives, such as hot melt adhesives, in the form of a thin filament or strand with a controlled pattern. Conventional patterns used in the past have been patterns involving a swirling effect of the filament by impacting the filament with a plurality of jets of air. This is generally known as controlled fiberization or CF® in the hot melt adhesive dispensing industry. Controlled Fiberization techniques are especially useful for accurately covering a wider region of a substrate with adhesive dispensed as single filaments or as multiple side-by-side filaments from nozzle passages having small diameters, such as on the order of .010 inch to .060 inch. The width of the adhesive pattern placed on the substrate can be widened to many times the width of the adhesive filament itself. Moreover, controlled fiberization techniques are used to provide better control of the adhesive placement. This is especially useful at the edges of a substrate and on very narrow substrates, for example, such as on strands of material such as [[Lycra]] spandex, commonly sold under the trademark LYCRA, used in the leg bands of diapers. Other adhesive filament dispensing techniques and apparatus have been used for producing an oscillating pattern of adhesive on a substrate or, in other words, a stitching pattern in which the adhesive moves back-and-forth generally in a zig-zag form on the substrate. These dispensers or applicators have a series of liquid and air orifices arranged on the same plane. --

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Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2006
Response Dated September 18, 2006

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 16 with the following replacement paragraph:

-- FIG. 1 illustrates one embodiment of the method of this invention which uses an adhesive dispenser or module 10 including a nozzle 12. Nozzle 12 may include a circular adhesive discharge orifice, a more elongate slot-shaped orifice, or other types of orifices suitable for dispensing continuous adhesive filaments 13 of a desired width and with a pattern as discussed in greater detail below. In this embodiment, one or more stretched elastic [[Lycra]] LYCRA strands 14 are moving in the direction of arrow 16 and a flat sheet 18 of substrate material, such as a woven or non-woven material, is moving in the direction of arrow 20 around a conventional guide cylinder 22 rotating in the direction of arrow 24. Strand 14 is stretched so that, upon attachment to sheet 18, the sheet 18 will be elasticized generally along a line defined by strand 14. Dispenser or module 10 is operated by a suitable controller 26 for actuating a valve (not shown) within the dispenser 10. Other types of dispensers may be used as well. The apex or tip 12a of the nozzle 12 is spaced a short distance from the [[Lycra]] LYCRA strand 14 and accurately dispenses adhesive filaments 13 onto the strand 14 immediately prior to or upstream from the point 32 where the strand 14 meets the substrate 18. As discussed below, the filament 13 is discharged in a pattern that may form discrete areas of adhesive such as solid dots 30 of adhesive that may or may not be connected by thinner filament sections. During the time that it takes for the strand 14 to reach point 32, the adhesive will flow or wrap preferably around all sides of the strand 14 including the lower side (as viewed in FIG. 1) to ensure full bonding between the strand 14 and the upper surface of the substrate 18. --